

Remarks

Claims 8-11 were pending. Applicants have canceled claims 8, 10 and 11 without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue their subject matter in the present application and in other applications. Applicants have amended claim 9 to be an independent claim. Support for the amendment to claim 9 is found at least in original claim 8. Upon entry of the present amendment, claim 9 will be pending and presented for consideration.

Applicants submit that the present amendment introduces no new matter into the application.

35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

The Office action rejected claims 8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description and enablement requirements.

Applicants disagree with the rejections for the reasons set forth in Applicants' prior paper.

Nevertheless, to promote prosecution, Applicants have now canceled claims 8, 10 and 11 without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue their subject matter in the present application and in related applications. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections in view of the cancellation of the claims.

35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office action rejected claims 8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. To promote prosecution, Applicants have now canceled claims 8, 10 and 11 without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue their subject matter in the present application and in related applications.

Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection in view of the cancellation of the claims.

Claim objection

The Office action objected to claim 9 because it depended from a rejected base claim. Applicants have amended claim 9 to be an independent claim. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the objection to claim 9.

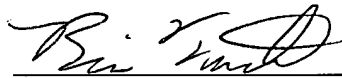
CONCLUSION

Upon entry of the present amendment, claim 9 will be pending and presented for consideration. Applicants believe claim 9 to be in condition for allowance and request a telephonic interview with the undersigned attorney to address any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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